



Holy Eucharist

THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT
GAUDETE SUNDAY
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2025 • 10:30 AM

Holy Eucharist

about this community Trinity Lutheran Church is a diverse Christian community committed to sharing and teaching the Word of God. We welcome all people and serve to provide Christian education, witness and outreach. In response to God's grace, we are called to support and advocate for our dynamic community, care for others, worship God, develop leaders in our faith, and steward the gifts we have been given by God.

Our Values: Love + Community + Inclusion + Service + Creativity + Faithfulness + Learning

livestream notice To accommodate all our membership, and to provide outreach into the community, this service is being live streamed and made available on YouTube. By attending, you consent to any recording, and its release, publication, exhibition, or reproduction to be used for live streaming and/or any other publication, printed or electronic, of Trinity Lutheran Church.

today's worship A note of joyful expectation marks today's worship. Isaiah announces that the desert shall rejoice and blossom, and Jesus points to the unexpected and transforming signs of God's reign. We wait with patience for the coming of the Lord, even as we rejoice at his presence among us this day: in word and holy supper, in church and in our homes, in silent reflection and in works of justice and love. We pray that God would open our eyes and ears to the wonders of Christ's advent among us.

Please silence all electronic devices before the service.

*You are invited to participate throughout the service with the **bold** responses and in all hymns.*

GATHERING

prelude Fuga sopra il Magnificat, BWV 733

J.S. Bach
(1685-1750)

welcome *Pr. Stephanie Jaeger*

moment of silence

confession and forgiveness

Please stand for Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✙ one God,
whose home is heaven and earth,
whose salvation is sure.

Amen.

✙ the sign of the cross is used
throughout the service to
symbolize the Holy Trinity and
Christ's crucifixion—some may
choose to cross themselves

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God
and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Long-expected God,

we confess that we look to ourselves

for the peace and security only you can provide.

We reach for swords and spears,

reluctant to release our grip on the ways of war.

We become impatient while waiting

and weary of keeping awake.

Free us from self-reliance,

and teach us to live in harmony with our neighbors.

Increase our trust in God's timing,

and awaken us to your advent among us,

that we may abound in the hope you have promised.

Amen.

God judges us not as we deserve,

but according to God's own righteousness.

✙ You are freed and forgiven,

saved by grace,

and ready to welcome the Savior.

Amen.

Holy Eucharist

gathering hymn

“Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn” (ELW 242)



1 A - wake! A - wake, and greet the new morn, for
2 To us, to all in sor - row and fear, Em -
3 In dark - est night his com - ing shall be, when
4 Re - joice, re - joice, take heart in the night, though



an - gels her - ald its dawn - ing. Sing out your joy, for
man - u - el comes a - sing - ing, his hum - ble song is
all the world is de - spair - ing, as morn - ing light so
dark the win - ter and cheer - less, the ris - ing sun shall



soon he is born, be - hold! the Child of our long - ing.
qui - et and near, yet fills the earth with its ring - ing;
qui - et and free, so warm and gen - tle and car - ing.
crown you with light, be strong and lov - ing and fear - less.



Come as a ba - by weak and poor, to bring all hearts to -
mu - sic to heal the bro - ken soul and hymns of lov - ing -
Then shall the mute break forth in song, the lame shall leap in
Love be our song and love our prayer and love our end - less



geth - er, he o - pens wide the heav'n - ly door and
kind - ness, the thun - der of his an - thems roll to
won - der, the weak be raised a - bove the strong, and
sto - ry; may God fill ev - 'ry day we share and



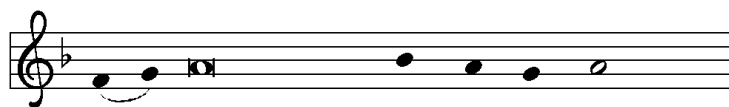
lives now in - side us for - ev - er.
shat - ter all ha - tred and blind - ness.
weap - ons be bro - ken a - sun - der.
bring us at last in - to glo - ry.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950

Music: Marty Haugen

greeting The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And also with you.

kyrie



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



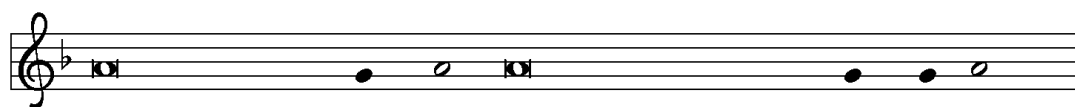
Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal - va - tion, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace of the whole world, for the well - being of the church of God,



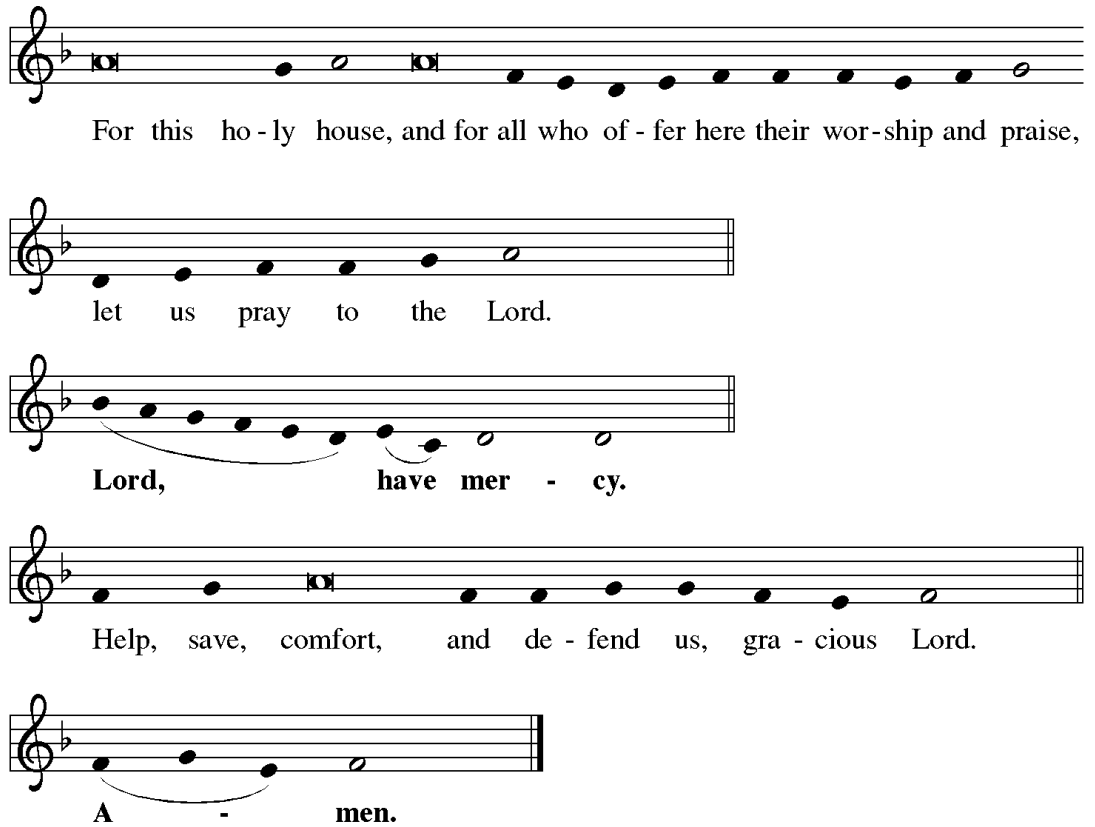
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.

(turn page for remainder of the Kyrie)

Holy Eucharist



For this ho - ly house, and for all who of - fer here their wor - ship and praise,
let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mer - cy.
Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.
A - men.

prayer of the day Let us pray.

Stir up the wills of all who look to you, Lord God, and strengthen our faith in your coming, that, transformed by grace, we may walk in your way; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

All are seated

lighting of the advent
wreath

Today we light the first, second, and third candles of the Advent wreath. Each candle has a meaning. The first candle represents hope, the second candle peace, and the third candle joy.

The candles are lit.

A reading from Isaiah 55:12: "You will go out in joy and be led forth in peace; the mountains and hills will burst into song before you, and all the trees of the field will clap their hands."

The candles are lit.

Let us pray. Gracious God, you came to us in human flesh, and you abide with us in the Holy Spirit. Fill us with your joy, and help us shine as a light to the world. Through Jesus Christ, who makes our joy complete.

Amen.

children's message *Children are invited forward for a message with Pr. Stephanie*

WORD

first reading Isaiah 35:1-10

A reading from Isaiah.

¹ The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad;
the desert shall rejoice and blossom;
like the crocus ² it shall blossom abundantly
and rejoice with joy and shouting.
The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it,
the majesty of Carmel and Sharon.
They shall see the glory of the LORD,
the majesty of our God.

³ Strengthen the weak hands
and make firm the feeble knees.
⁴ Say to those who are of a fearful heart,
"Be strong, do not fear!
Here is your God.
He will come with vengeance,
with terrible recompense.
He will come and save you."

⁵ Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,
and the ears of the deaf shall be opened;
⁶ then the lame shall leap like a deer,
and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.
For waters shall break forth in the wilderness
and streams in the desert;
⁷ the burning sand shall become a pool
and the thirsty ground springs of water;
the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp;
the grass shall become reeds and rushes.

⁸ A highway shall be there,
and it shall be called the Holy Way;
the unclean shall not travel on it,
but it shall be for God's people;
no traveler, not even fools, shall go astray.
⁹ No lion shall be there,

nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it;
they shall not be found there,
but the redeemed shall walk there.

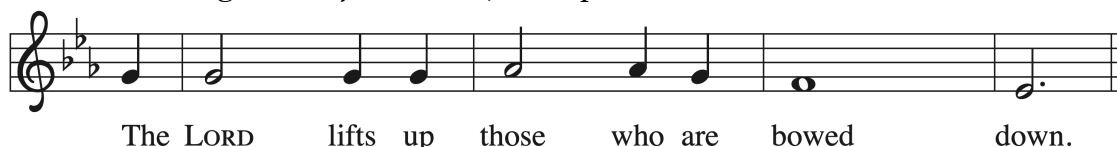
¹⁰ And the ransomed of the LORD shall return
and come to Zion with singing;
everlasting joy shall be upon their heads;
they shall obtain joy and gladness,
and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

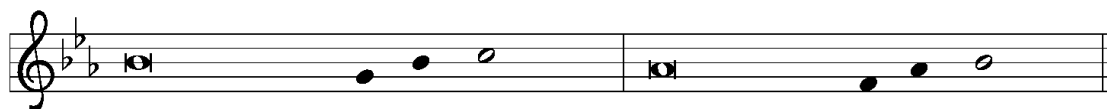


psalm 146:5-10 *The cantor sings the refrain once, all repeat*



The LORD lifts up those who are bowed down.

Tone



The cantor and congregation chant all verses

- ⁵ Happy are they who have the God of Jacob | for their help,
whose hope is in the | LORD their God;
- ⁶ who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that | is in them;
who keeps promis- | es forever;
- ⁷ who gives justice to those who are oppressed, and food to |
those who hunger.
The LORD sets the | captive free.
- ⁸ The LORD opens the eyes of the blind; the LORD lifts up those
who | are bowed down;
the LORD | loves the righteous.
- ⁹ The LORD cares | for the stranger;
the LORD sustains the orphan and widow, but frustrates the
way | of the wicked.
- ¹⁰ The LORD shall | reign forever,
your God, O Zion, throughout all generations. |
Hallelujah! *Refrain*

A reading from James.

⁷ Be patient, therefore, brothers and sisters, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. ⁸ You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. ⁹ Brothers and sisters, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! ¹⁰ As an example of suffering and patience, brothers and sisters, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

All stand for the Gospel Acclamation

gospel acclamation



gospel reading Matthew 11:2-11

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.
Glory to you, O Lord.

² When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples ³ and said to him, “Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?” ⁴ Jesus answered them, “Go and tell John what you hear and see: ⁵ the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, those with a skin disease are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. ⁶ And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me.”

⁷ As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? ⁸ What, then, did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. ⁹ What, then, did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. ¹⁰ This is the one about whom it is written,

‘See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,
who will prepare your way before you.’

¹¹ “Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist, yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.”

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to You, O Christ.

Please be seated for the Sermon

sermon *Pr. Stephanie Jaeger*

Please stand for the Hymn of the Day

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hymn of the day "Christ Be Our Light" (ELW 715)



1 Long - ing for light, we wait in dark - ness. Long - ing for
 2 Long - ing for peace, our world is trou - bled. Long - ing for
 3 Long - ing for food, man - y are hun - gry. Long - ing for
 4 Long - ing for shel - ter, man - y are home - less. Long - ing for
 5 Man - y the gifts, man - y the peo - ple, man - y the



truth, we turn to you. Make us your own,
 hope, man - y de - spair. Your word a - lone
 wa - ter, man - y still thirst. Make us your bread,
 warmth, man - y are cold. Make us your build - ing,
 hearts that yearn to be - long. Let us be ser - vants



your ho - ly peo - ple, light for the world to see.
 has pow'r to save us. Make us your liv - ing voice.
 bro - ken for oth - ers, shared un - til all are fed.
 shel - ter - ing oth - ers, walls made of liv - ing stone.
 to one an - oth - er, signs of your king - dom come.



Refrain
 Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the



dark - ness. Christ, be our light! Shine in your



church gath - ered to - day.

the apostles' creed **I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

prayers *The assisting minister leads our prayers. You are invited to respond to each petition as follows:*

...God of grace,

Receive our prayer.

At the end of the prayers, the pastor says

Draw near to us, O God, as we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy through Jesus Christ, Emmanuel.

Amen.

peace The peace and hope of Jesus Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

*During the passing of the
peace, many will shake
hands, hug, or simply make a
peace sign*

After exchanging a sign of peace, please be seated

announcements *Please see this week's Trinity Times for announcements*

noisy offering *On the second Sunday of each month, we collect a special offering to benefit Feeding with TLC, our weekly feeding ministry. You may give coins, cash, checks, or by card via the QR code below.*

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offering



The offering collected this Sunday supports the ministries of Trinity Lutheran Church. Our inclusive congregation has special commitments to the arts, addressing hunger and poverty in our community, and Christian education. Help us bring the healing love of God into the world by donating generously. To give online, scan the QR code.

instrumental offertory

O Little Town of Bethlehem

arr. Larry Sue

Natalia Paruz, handbells

Please stand for the Presentation of the Offering

presentation of the offering

O - so - sŏ o - so - sŏ, pyong - hwa - ŭi - im - gŭm
1 Come now, O Prince of peace, make us one bod - y.

u - ri - ga han - mom i - ru - ge ha - so - sŏ.
Come, O Lord Je - sus, rec - on - cile your peo - ple.

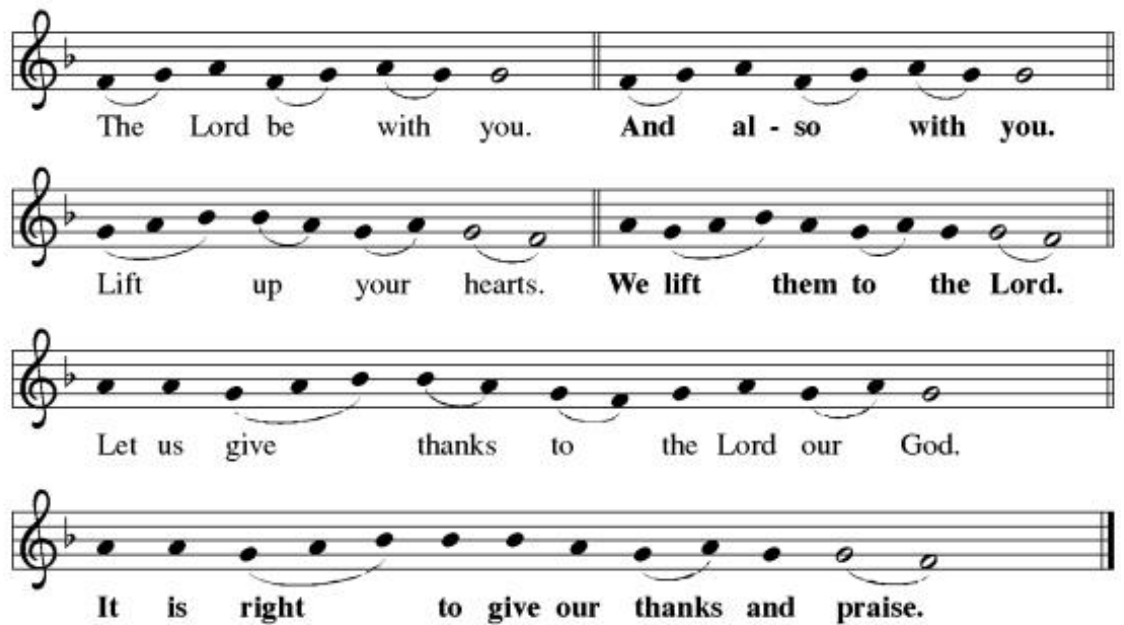
The assisting minister leads us in prayer

offering prayer

Nourishing God,
you are water in the wilderness and streams in the desert.
Through this meal, satisfy our parched places,
that we may rejoice and be for the world
signs of your kingdom come.
Amen.

MEAL

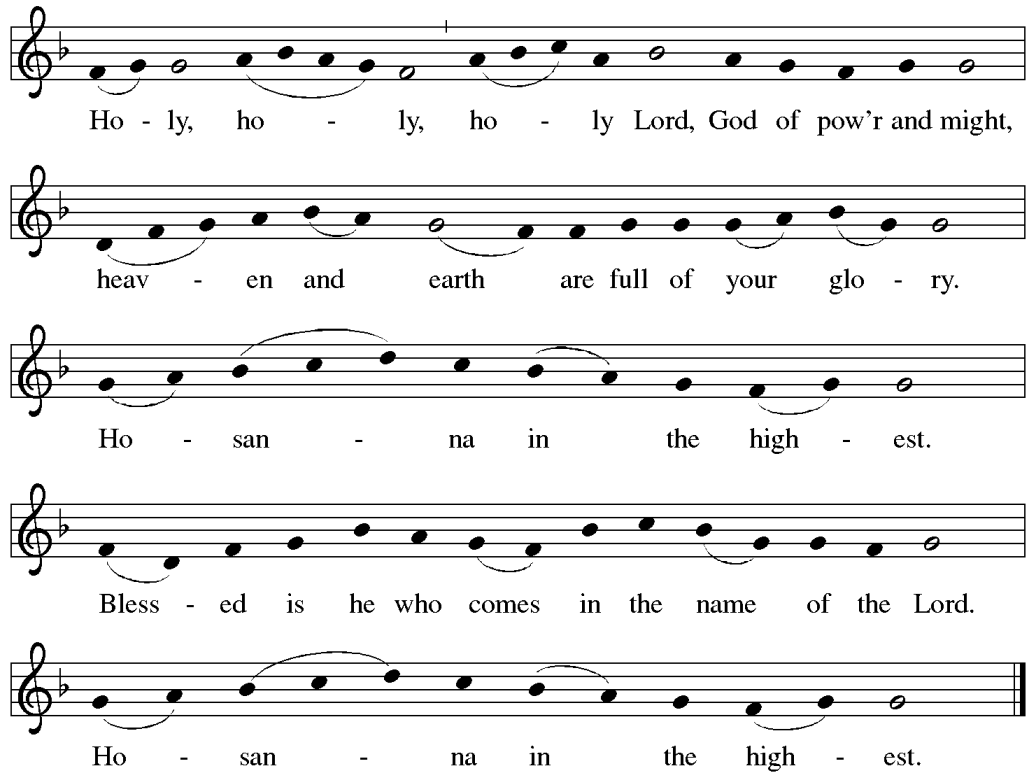
the great thanksgiving



preface It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ.
You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer,
through whom you will also make all things new
in the day when he comes to judge the world in righteousness.
And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy Eucharist

sanctus



thanksgiving at the table

Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life:
Blessed are you for the birth of creation.
Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light.
Blessed are you for your promise to your people.
Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams.
Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will.
Blessed are you for your Son Jesus,
the Word made flesh.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:
Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.

With this bread and cup
we remember your Word dwelling among us,
full of grace and truth.
We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection.
We look with hope for his coming.

Come, Lord Jesus.

Holy God, we long for your Spirit.
Come among us.
Bless this meal.
May your Word take flesh in us.
Awaken your people.
Fill us with your light.
Bring the gift of peace on earth.
Come, Holy Spirit.

All praise and glory are yours,
Holy One of Israel,
Word of God incarnate,
Power of the Most High,
one God, now and forever.

Amen.

the lord's prayer Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**

invitation to communion

Here is life. God is with us. Come, receive what God has promised.

All are welcome at Jesus' table of grace. We commune today at the kneelers at the front row of pews. Come forward to the kneeler closest to you via the center aisle, as indicated by the usher. You will receive the host from the pastor and wine or grape juice from the assistant. You may leave your used cup in the white bowls at the start of the side aisles as you return to your seats.

agnus dei

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the

world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you

take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy

on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the

sin of the world; grant us peace. A - men.

communion hymn "Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus" (ELW 254)



1 Come, thou long-ex - pect-ed Je - sus, born to set thy peo-ple free;
 2 Born thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, born a child, and yet a king;



from our fears and sins re - lease us; let us find our rest in thee.
 born to reign in us for - ev - er, now thy gra - cious king-dom bring.



Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, hope of all the earth thou art,
 By thine own e - ter - nal Spir-it rule in all our hearts a - lone;

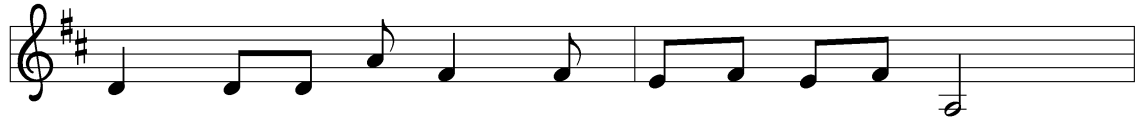


dear de - sire of ev - 'ry na - tion, joy of ev - 'ry long-ing heart.
 by thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it raise us to thy glo - rious throne.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788
 Music: W. Walker, Southern Harmony, 1835

Holy Eucharist

communion hymn "All Earth Is Hopeful" (ELW 266)



To - da la tie - rra es - pe - ra, al Sal - va - dor

- 1 All earth is hope - ful, the Sav - ior comes at last!
- 2 Peo - ple of Is - rael, you heard the proph - et tell:
- 3 Moun - tains and val - leys will have to be pre - pared;
- 4 We first saw Je - sus a ba - by in a crib.



yel sur - co_a - bier - to, la ob - ra del Se - ñor; es el
 Fur - rows lie o - pen for God's cre - a - tive task: this, the
 "A vir - gin moth - er will bear Em - man - u - el"; she con -
 new high - ways o - pened, new pro - to - cols de - clared. Al - most
 This same Lord Je - sus to - day has come to live in our



mun - do que lu - cha por la li - ber - tad, re -
 la - bor of peo - ple who strug - gle to see how
 ceived him, "God with us," our broth - er, whose birth re -
 here! God is near - ing, in beau - ty and grace! All
 world; he is pres - ent, in neigh - bors we see our



cla - ma jus - ti - cia y bus - ca la ver - dad. dar - nos li - ber - tad.
 God's truth and jus - tice set ev - 'ry - bod - y free.
 stores hope and cour - age to chil - dren of this earth.
 clear ev - 'ry gate - way, in haste, come out in haste!
 Je - sus is with us, and ev - er sets us free.

Text: Alberto Taulé, b. 1932; tr. Madeleine Forell Marshall, b. 1946

Music: Alberto Taulé

After communion, all stand and receive the blessing

table blessing May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ ☩ strengthen us and keep
 us in God's grace.
Amen.

The Assisting Minister leads us in prayer

prayer after communion Let us pray.
 God our host,
 at this table you have fed us with joy and gladness.
 Send us forth, eager to share the feast,
 welcome the stranger,
 and bear good fruit in the name of Jesus.
Amen.

SENDING

blessing May God who comes among us,
 Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit,
 grant you patience in waiting, peace in the darkness,
 and good news to share today and always.
Amen.

sending hymn “Savior of the Nations Come” (ELW 263, vs 1-4)

1 Sav - ior of the na - tions, come; vir - gin's son, make here your home.
 2 Not by hu - man flesh and blood, but the mys - tic Breath of God,
 3 Won - drous birth—oh, won - drous child—from his throne, a vir - gin mild!
 4 From God's heart the Sav - ior speeds, back to God his path - way leads;

Mar - vel now, O heav'n and earth: God has cho - sen such a birth.
 was the Word of God made flesh, fruit of wom - an, blos - som fresh.
 Ver - y God, and Mar - y's son, ea - ger now his race to run!
 out to van - quish death's com - mand, back to reign at God's right hand.

Text: attr. Ambrose of Milan, 340-397; Martin Luther, 1483-1546; tr.
 hymnal version

Music: J. Walter, *Geistliche Gesangbüchlein*, 1524

Holy Eucharist

dismissal Go in peace. Keep awake.
Thanks be to God.

postlude Toccata on 'Veni Emmanuel'

Andrew Carter
(b. 1939)

We're glad you chose to worship with us this morning! Please join us for
Coffee Hour downstairs.

WORSHIP LEADERS

Preacher & Presider	Pr. Stephanie Jaeger
Assisting Ministers	Roy Danischewski
Organist	Trent Whisenant
Altar Guild	Nancy Misener-Granda & Luann Martin
Ushers	Marcia Lyles & Thimme Family
Counters	Kathy Klein & Hillie Grossarth
Livestream Tech	Peyton Bloom

IN OUR PRAYERS

Justin Solomon, Cindy Roberti, Pat Zulch, Sean Reardon, Lori Homan, Dianne Bombardi, Joseph Campitiello, Barbie Parker, Amy Fittapaldi, Vincent Pizzolo, Gonca Latif-Schmitt and her family, Rita Fowler, Josie Honus, David Dowling, Jörg and Madeline Dreusicke, Jasmine Drake, Joanna Smith, Perry Summerford, Denise Melious, Maria Alvarez Castro, Friends and Family of Phillip Herbst, Angel Luis Rios, Marlies Meyer, Glen Danischewski, Ronnie Bero, Mary Bruno, Pennington Family, Carmen Cognetta, Deacon Margaret Ann O'Donnell, Migdalia Jimenez, Jessica Desens, Edith Piazza, Alice Evensen, Sean C. Sweeney, Janet A. Cleary, George Turner, Christopher Jarrett, Meah Guzman, Carmen Aponte, and James Ciccolella

For those in our armed services, especially
Joshua Lentini, Sgt George E Turner, and the US Army

Holy Eucharist

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